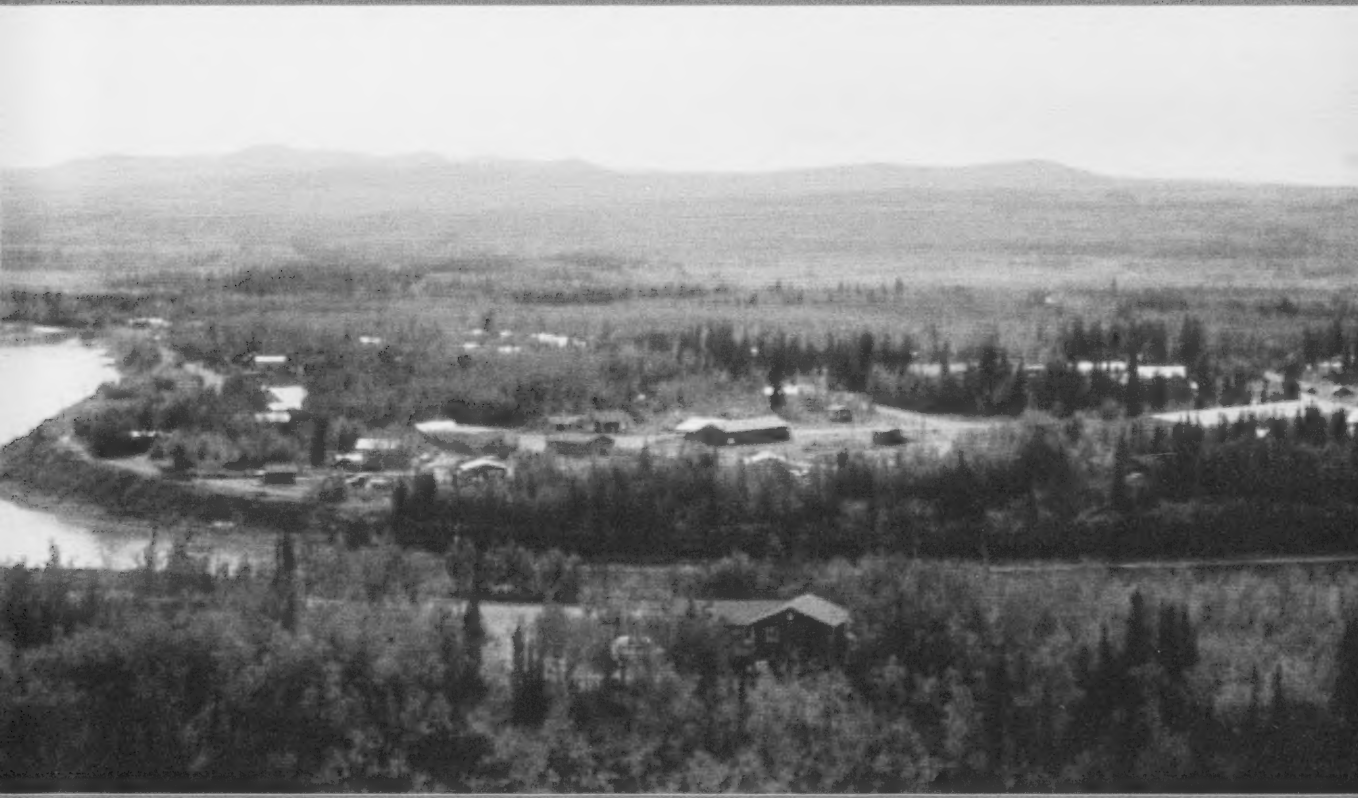
Yukon Heritage Resources Board



Annual Report 2005–2006

Ten Yukon Heritage Facts

The Yukon has eight language groups: Han, Gwich'in, Northern Tutchone, Southern Tutchone, Tagish, Tlingit, Kaska and Upper Tanana.

The Yukon River is 3185 km long, the fifth longest in North America.

In 1874, Jack McQuesten and his assistant Frank Banfield established Fort Reliance, the first post within the traditional territory of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

In 1883 First Nations women and young children were packing up to 100 pounds on their backs for miners over the Chilkoot Pass, earning from ten to twenty dollars per day.

In 1848, Hudson's Bay Company trader Robert Campbell set up a post called Fort Selkirk in the territory of the Northern Tutchone people.

Aishihik was the starting point for three major trails: north to the Yukon River and Fort Selkirk; west to the Nisling and White rivers; and southwest to Kluane Lake.

Archaeological evidence suggests that human occupation of the Kluane Lake region extends back at least 8000 years.

Three Tagish people, Skookum Jim *(Keish)*, Kate Carmack *(Shaaw Tláa)* and Dawson Charlie *(Káa Goox)*, were involved in the Bonanza Creek gold discovery of 1896 that sparked the Klondike Gold Rush.

The Yukon has the largest non-polar icefields in North America.

The Yukon became a territory on June 13, 1898.

Message from the Chair

One of the highlights of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board's activities over the year was our trip to Dawson City to attend the designation ceremonies of the Dawson Telegraph Office and the Yukon Saw Mill Co. Office which the Board had had the satisfaction of recommending for designation. Due to their prominence, the ongoing preservation of these two buildings is integral to the historic fabric of Dawson City.

While in Dawson, the Board had the opportunity to travel to the Forty Mile site to view the preservation and interpretive work being done cooperatively by Cultural Services Branch and the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage Department.

The Board continues to work on our strategic plan and has begun to implement some of the priorities it identified. As part of these efforts, Dave Joe was invited to present an in-depth look at Chapter 13, the intent of the chapter and the Board's role.

YHRB chair Ingrid Johnson/ K'ayyadeh.

The Board has expressed an increasing interest in First Nation languages over the last year and this year struck a language sub-committee. Board members have expressed a strong commitment to the rejuvenation of Yukon First Nation languages under 13.5.3.3 of the UFA.

Another year has come to a close and the Yukon Heritage Resources Board has enjoyed another interesting and satisfying year of working with the many heritage concerns of all Yukon people. As we enter the third and final year of the present Board's mandate, we can clearly see how the Board has developed and grown with the mix of a few first-time members and some returning members. I would like to thank the members for their dedication and commitment over the past year in bringing some matters to fruition and embarking on many important new initiatives.

Special thanks to Minister Elaine Taylor who has taken a great interest in the Board's work, the Cultural Services Branch who have assisted in many ways, the Board members who continue to devote their interest and energies to the Board, and to our Executive Director Loree Stewart who continues to work hard on behalf of the Board and Yukon heritage.

Who We Are

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board (YHRB) is comprised of ten members from throughout the Yukon who operate in the public interest. The Council of Yukon First Nations nominates five appointees and the Yukon government nominates five, with the concurrence of the government of Canada for one of the selections. All of them are appointed by the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture for three-year terms.

YHRB was established in 1995 under the terms of the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA). Its duties and responsibilities are outlined in the UFA (Chapter 13) and the *Yukon Historic Resources Act* (Part 1, Section 4). Under the UFA, the Board may make recommendations to the Minister and to Yukon First Nations regarding the management of Moveable Heritage Resources and Heritage Sites. YHRB may also be asked to make determinations pursuant to UFA 13.3.2.1 (ownership of contested heritage resources) and 13.3.6 (management of ethnographic objects and palaeontological or archaeological objects).

l-r: Joyce Armstrong, Diane Strand, Hon. Elaine Taylor, Carl Sidney, Ingrid Johnson, Sharon A. Peter and Bob Munroe in Dawson City at the Telegraph Office.

Under the Yukon's *Historic Resources Act*, the Board is to advise the Minister on appropriate policies and guidelines for the designation of historic sites and appropriate policies, guidelines and standards for the care and custody of historic objects; perform functions that land claims agreements assign to YHRB and advise on the use of the Yukon Historic Resources Fund.

Since its inception, the board has assisted First Nation, territorial, federal and municipal governments in developing heritage resource policies to address the public interest. Current board members are Ingrid Johnson (Chair, Whitehorse), Patricia Cunning (Vice-Chair, Whitehorse), Carolyn Allen (Teslin), Joyce Armstrong (Watson Lake), André Bourcier (Whitehorse), Ron Chambers (Haines Junction), Bob Munroe (Whitehorse), Sharon A. Peter (Mayo), Carl Sidney (Teslin) and Diane Strand (Haines Junction). All appointments are effective for a term ending April 17, 2007.

Rick Lemaire, Director of Cultural Services, Department of Tourism and Culture assisted the Board in his role as Yukon government representative. The Board's Executive Director is Loree Stewart.

Board Activities

The mandate of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board is to provide advice to governments on issues that affect the territory's heritage resources. Board members work with a variety of groups and individuals across the territory and nationally to fulfil this mandate. Activities for the year included strategic planning, a presentation on Chapter 13, traditional languages research and a community visit by the board.

Forty Mile.
Yukon government photo

Strategic planning

- A strategic planning consultant was hired in August;
- In September/October consultations were carried out with approximately 55 stakeholders such as governments, board members and staff and heritage organizations to help define important activities that YHRB should undertake;
- In November, board members attended a one-day facilitated workshop on strategic directions;
- In February, action plans associated with the board's strategic directions were refined; and
- In February and March strategic planning documents were reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Presentation on Chapter 13

- In November, lawyer Dave Joe, one of the authors of Chapter 13 of the UFA, provided a historical perspective of Chapter 13 to coincide with the strategic planning workshop;
- Mr. Joe outlined how the chapter was developed, noting that YHRB has a duty to make recommendations to Yukon and Yukon First Nations on Moveable Heritage Resources and Heritage Sites;
- He identified YHRB's two imperatives as subsections 13.3.2.1 (deciding issues of contested ownership of Heritage Resources) and 13.5.3.9 (designation of Heritage Sites); and
- YHRB may also make recommendations on any matter related to heritage resources, including traditional knowledge, traditional languages, and reviewing regulations respecting Moveable Heritage Resources and Heritage Sites.

Traditional languages of Yukon First Nations and issues

- In April, the Chair, two board members and the Executive Director attended the Northern Strategy focus-group consultation and reiterated the board's interest in recognition and promotion of Yukon First Nation languages;
- In May YHRB recommended that the fall intake for the Yukon Historic Resources Fund be restricted to First Nation language projects;
- In August a Subcommittee of the Special Projects Committee on languages was struck to respond to *Towards A New Beginning*, the report of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures;
- In December, the board made a request to the CYFN Grand Chief that YHRB have a place at the Yukon First Nation Language Caucus;
- In February, the board wrote to the Minister of Canadian Heritage regarding the Task Force report, suggesting that Canada look at ways to assist regional initiatives; and
- In March the Executive Director participated in "Languages in First Nation Culture" at the University of Victoria.

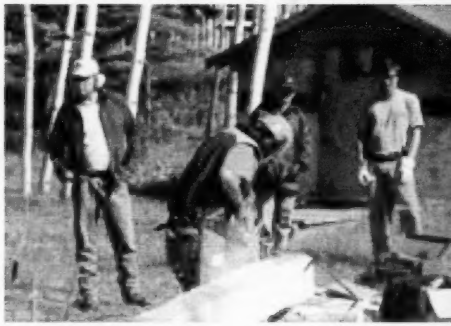
A designation ceremony was held at the Yukon Saw Mill Co. Office.
Yukon government photo

Community visit to Dawson City

- In August the board visited Dawson City to participate in formal designation ceremonies with Minister Taylor for the Dawson City Telegraph Office and Yukon Saw Mill Co. Office *(see photo, left)*;
- The board travelled to Forty Mile with Minister Taylor for a site visit and lunch hosted by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and attended the evening launch of the Moosehide video at Dänojà Zho;
- The board requested a presentation from the Department of Highways and Public Works on the report "Heritage Resource Impact Assessment for Proposed Dawson Bridge";
- The board visited various heritage attractions in Dawson City, including the *S.S. Keno* National Historic Site, Robert Service cabin and Commissioner's residence;
- The regular board meeting was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church; and
- The board hosted an Open House at OTAB for governments and the heritage community.

Activities and conferences

- The board co-sponsored the Yukon Historica Regional Fair in May;
- Several board members and the Executive Director attended the workshop "Building Teams/ Building Bridges in the Yukon Heritage Sector" in May;
- A board member participated in a log building conservation workshop at Fort Selkirk from May 31 to June 3;
- In September the Executive Director attended the Heritage Canada Foundation's conference "Heritage Conservation and Sustainable Development" in Regina;
- YHRB continued to sit on the adjudication committee of the Yukon Heritage Training Fund under YHMA, the new administrator; and
- On Heritage Day, February 24, YHRB participated in "Doors Open."



Board member Carl Sidney at the Fort Selkirk conservation workshop.
Yukon government photo

Guests of the Board

In August, the Board hosted a working lunch in Dawson City for Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor, Deputy Minister Sally Sheppard and Rick Lemaire, Director of Cultural Services.

The Board invited members of the heritage community, Polly Thorpe (Yukon Geographical Place Names Board), Rebecca Jansen (Yukon Historical & Museums Association) and Sarah Charlie (Yukon Tourism and Culture) to attend the presentation on Chapter 13 of the UFA by Dave Joe.

The Board was pleased to meet with Minister Taylor and Deputy Minister Sally Sheppard again in November.

As part of its strategic plan initiatives, the Board commits to continuing to meet with governments, heritage organizations and the public on heritage issues important to the Yukon people.

Recommendations of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board 2005-06

Note: recommendations are listed in chronological order.

Pending decisions from previous fiscal year

In 2004–05 the Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that the Dawson Telegraph Office be designated as a Yukon Historic Site under the provisions of the *Historic Resources Act*.

Result: Accepted

In 2004–05 the Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that the Yukon Saw Mill Company Office be designated as a Yukon Historic Site under the provisions of the *Historic Resources Act*.

Result: Accepted

Current fiscal year

The Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that in the subsequent application intake, scheduled for October 2005, the interest generated in the 2004/05 fiscal year from the Yukon Historic Resources Fund be used to fund aboriginal languages projects only.

Result: Accepted

The Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that a Southern Tutchone language project be funded under the Yukon Historic Resources Fund.

Result: Accepted

The Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that a response be provided to two recommendations made in October, 2004 regarding the Yukon Museums Strategy: 1) that the Government of Yukon immediately develop an implementation plan; and 2) that it immediately establish a representative panel to review the strategy one year from the date of its adoption as government policy.

Result: Pending (Recommendation 1); and Accepted (Recommendation 2)

The Board recommended to the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture that four projects be funded under the Yukon Historic Resources Fund.

Result: Accepted

Yukon Historic Sites

Under the provisions of the *Historic Resources Act*, nominations for the territorial designation of sites are referred to the Yukon Heritage Resources Board for evaluation and recommendation to the minister responsible for heritage. The board evaluates a site using criteria it developed specific to the category of the nominated site: built, archaeological, paleontological or landscape. The board also makes recommendations regarding the management of a site if it is territorially designated. Once the Minister accepts the board's recommendation, Tourism and Culture staff advertise a Notice of Intended Designation and begin the process of officially designating the site according to the *Act*.

Telegraph office, Dawson City.
Yukon government photo

YHRB recommends that work on a site recommended for designation follow the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. In August, 2005, YHRB passed a motion to formally endorse the Standards and Guidelines and informed Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor and then Minister of the Environment Stéphane Dion of that endorsement.

Directions for the Future

The YHRB will continue to make recommendations on the designation of Yukon Historic Sites and applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund, participate on the adjudication committee for the Heritage Training Fund and review the objectives, policies and programs of the Cultural Services Branch. The Board may also review and monitor the implementation of First Nation heritage resources strategic plans. As specified in Yukon First Nation Final Agreements, YHRB will review and make recommendations on management plans for historic sites, special management areas and Yukon parks.

Through strategic planning, the Board identified its priorities for 2006/07: development of an adjudication process in consultation with First Nations to resolve ownership of disputed heritage resources (UFA 13.3.2.1); develop a website (www.yhrb.ca); make efforts to include traditional knowledge in Board deliberations; and continue research into traditional languages.

Auditors' Report

To the Members of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board:

We have audited the balance sheet of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board as at March 31, 2006, and the statements of revenue, expenses and surplus and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Board as at March 31, 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Hebd Mackila

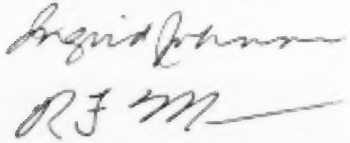
Chartered Accountants
Whitehorse, Yukon
May 6, 2006

Balance Sheet

March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Assets		
Current		
Cash	**$ 68,561**	$ 84,403
Accounts receivable	**2,174**	1,207
Prepaid expenses	**2,199**	2,097
	72,934	87,707
Capital (Notes 2 and 3)	**22,013**	21,678
	$ 94,947	$ 109,385
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	**$ 8,483**	$ 10,491
Deferred revenue	**5,030**	—
	13,513	10,491
Equity		
Investment in capital assets	**22,013**	21,678
Accumulated surplus	**59,421**	77,216
	81,434	98,894
	$ 94,947	$ 109,385

Approved by the Board:



Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Surplus

For the year ended March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Revenue		
Government of the Yukon	**$ 180,052**	$ 176,905
Investment income	**2,937**	1,676
	182,989	178,581
Expenses		
Advertising	**993**	223
Accommodation	**6,542**	2,027
Honoraria	**31,200**	24,000
Insurance	**2,947**	2,719
Janitorial	**1,863**	1,873
Meals and incidentals	**8,045**	5,068
Memberships	**139**	172
Miscellaneous	**1,089**	1,050
Office equipment	**335**	4,363
Office supplies	**1,465**	2,176
Photocopying and postage	**1,165**	1,069
Professional fees	**1,550**	1,550
Repairs and maintenance	**2,412**	1,607
Support services	**31,695**	10,784
Telephone and internet	**2,899**	1,796
Training	**5,393**	3,246
Travel	**12,605**	5,815
Utilities	**6,651**	5,665
Wages and benefits	**76,766**	74,437
	195,754	149,640
Excess of revenue over expenses	**(12,765)**	28,941
Surplus, beginning of year	**77,216**	48,275
Transferred to deferred revenue	**(5,030)**	—
Surplus, end of year	**$ 59,421**	$ 77,216

Statement of Cash Flow

For the year ended March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Operating activities		
Excess of revenue over expenses	**$ (12,765)**	$ 28,941
Change in non-cash working capital items		
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	**(967)**	217
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	**(102)**	(158)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	**(2,008)**	(3,504)
Cash provided by (used by) operations	**(15,842)**	25,496
Investing activities		
Purchase of equipment	**(335)**	(4,363)
Equipment donated to other organizations	**—**	5,236
	(335)	873
Financing activities		
Increase (decrease) in investment in capital assets	**335**	(873)
Increase (decrease) in cash	**(15,842)**	25,496
Cash, beginning of year	**84,403**	58,907
Cash, end of year	**$ 68,561**	$ 84,403

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2006

1. Purpose of the Board

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board was established in March 1995 as one of the bodies required under the terms of the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA) and the enabling settlement legislation, to make recommendations to the Federal and Territorial Ministers responsible for Heritage and to each Yukon First Nation regarding the management of Yukon Heritage Resources and First Nation Heritage Resources.

Since its inception, the Board has assisted First Nation, Territorial, Federal and Municipal governments in developing heritage resource policies to reflect the wishes of all Yukoners.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting practices generally accepted in Canada. In preparing these financial statements management has made estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Revenue recognition

The Board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Capital assets

The full cost of capital assets is capitalized on the balance sheet in the year of purchase. Payment toward those costs are expensed in the year they are made. The Investment in Capital Assets represents the historical cost of all assets owned by the Society less loans providing funds to acquire equity in the assets. The Board does not amortize its capital assets.

Financial instruments

The Board's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, short-term investments and accounts payable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Board is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

3.Capital assets

	2006	2005
Office furniture and equipment	**$ 22,013**	$ 21,678

4. Economic dependence

The Board is dependent upon the Government of the Yukon for continued financial support.

Yukon Heritage Resources Board
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Front: Pelly Crossing, 2005. Katie West photo.

Back (top: l-r): Moosehide (Yukon Government photo); Taylor House, c.1970 (YHMA photo); Yukon Order of Pioneers cemetery (Katie West photo); Yukon Saw Mill Co. office (Yukon Government photo); and Forty Mile (Yukon Government photo).

Back (below): Fort Selkirk facing downstream, 1942. Yukon Archives, John A. Phelps Fonds #5724.